

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification:

Page 17:

Please substitute the following replacement paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 17:

Note that a method of fixing the stopper plate 10 is not limited to caulking (or clinching) and may involve using a locating snap ring—32, a screw-fitting means, a bush nut and so on.

Pages 23-24:

Please substitute the following replacement paragraph for the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 23:

Next, as shown in FIGS. 1 and 6, according to the present embodiment, the needle roller 8 is subjected to crowning. FIG. 6 is a side view of the cylindrical member (the needle roller) according to the embodiment of the present invention. A diameter of the needle roller 8 is gradually decreased toward the end portions from the central portion in the axial direction. A portion (ϕD_1) having a largest diameter is the central portion, while a portion (ϕD_2) having a smallest diameter is a portion proximal to the end face (which excludes, however, an angular radius but

excluding a radiused portion (R) portion formed with the end face).